

April 19, 1973
(Begin Belt #8)

even if in the process some of us wind up feeling thrashed out. But why should the Governor--back to that issue--be asked to bring in a bill incorporating amendments when he has offered amendments that are being rejected. The Governor can introduce a bill, which he did. On second thought he can offer amendments. He can introduce the bill but he cannot pass amendments. The Legislature must do that and the Legislature has chosen to completely reject his amendments. If you just want to make him say he made a mistake, adopt the amendments that he offered which say that he made a mistake. So I'm moving that LB 259 be returned to Select File for the purpose of striking the enacting clause and when that occurs and the enacting clause is stricken, there will be no budget bill of any kind before the Legislature, then perhaps the budget committee can do its work and if the budget committee feels it is going to abdicate its responsibilities to the Governor, we should abolish the budget committee as a committee since it can't handle these responsibilities and sit as a committee of the whole on the budget proposal this year.

PRESIDENT: Chair recognizes Senator Simpson and then Senator Stahmer.

SENATOR SIMPSON: Mr. President, members of the Legislature, I oppose the motion to bring the bill back to strike the enacting clause. I don't feel that this is a realistic idea. I have supported every other motion this morning because I personally feel that the bill should stay where it is and give us some time to allow the public to react. I am not afraid to let the people in my district react and there has been a great extent of this already. I think that we should not rush something as important as this and keep moving it ahead at the speed we are, but if we could leave it there on Final Reading until we come back from recess then maybe reason would come to our body.

PRESIDENT: Chair next recognizes Senator Cavanaugh. Senator Stahmer is passing.

SENATOR CAVANAUGH: Mr. President, members of the body, I will also oppose Senator Chambers' motion to strike the enacting clause and I likewise have attempted I think throughout this entire process to slow this process down in the hope that we would consider this budget with the responsibility that we have to consider the budget and to arrive at the best possible budget that the members of this body in their collective judgment could arrive at. It's clear now I think that we won't exercise that proper responsibility, that we, that the majority of the members of this body are prepared to act irresponsibly and it would be my feeling that it would be totally irresponsible to participate in a motion that would leave, if successful, the State without a budget. That I think brings less credibility to what a lot of us have been trying to do which simply has been to consider the budget, to consider it line by line as is our responsibility, and to apportion the spending as in our best judgment we find is the proper thing to do. So I'll have to oppose this motion.

CLERK: Motion on the desk, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Read the motion on the desk.

CLERK: I move the previous question. Signed, Senator Cal Carsten.

PRESIDENT: Previous question has been called for. Does the chair see five hands? Thank you. Question is, shall the debate now close? All those in favor will vote aye, all those opposed will vote no. Voting on the previous question. Thank you. Clerk will record.